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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 53 MAY 15, 1928 NO. 10

LIBRARIES IN ILLINOIS
Anna May Price

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN AMERICAN CULTURAL LIFE
Adolf Jürgens

A MODERN LIBRARY IN STOCKHOLM

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Diese Mitteilungen sind ins Leben gerufen, um die Ergebnisse der russischen archäologischen Forschung, die in Westeuropa fast unbekannt sind, sowie das reiche Material, das die russischen Sammlungen bewahren und das nur zu einem verschwindend kleinen Teil ausgenutzt ist, weiteren Kreisen zugänglich zu machen. Die Absicht der Herausgeber ist, grössere in sich geschlossene Reihen von antiken Kunstwerken in freier Folge zu veröffentlichen.

DIE FRÜHKRETISCHEN SIEGEL. Eine Untersuchung über das Werden des minoischen Stils. Von **Friedrich Matz.** Mit 115 Abbildungen im Text und 26 Tafeln. Quart. XV, 277 Seiten. M. 60.—.

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REALLEXIKON DER DEUTSCHEN LITERATURGESCHICHTE. Unter Mitwirkung zahlreicher Fachgelehrter herausgegeben von **Paul Merker** und **Wolfgang Stammler**, o. Professoren an der Universität Greifswald. II. Band: Jambus-Quatrain. IV, 754 Seiten. Lexikon-Oktav. M. 40.00, in Halbleder geb. 49.—. Früher erschien: I. Band: Abenteuerroman-Hyperbel. XII, 593 Seiten. Lexikon-Oktav. M. 32.—, in Halbleder geb. 41.—. Der III. Band wird in etwa 8 Lieferungen zu je M. 4.— vollständig sein.

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DIE ASKESE. Eine religionspsychologische Untersuchung. Von **Kristian Schjelderup.** Oktav. 249 Seiten. M. 11.50, geb. 12.80.

Der Verfasser untersucht in dem Werke die gesamte Materie "Askese," die ja wohl wie keine andere Erscheinung Eingang in das Gebiet der Religionspsychologie und Uebersicht über sie schafft. Als Ganzes ergibt diese bis ins letzte sachliche Arbeit einen ausserordentlich wertvollen Beitrag zur Psychologie der Religion an sich wie ganz besonders zur Religiosität der Jetztzeit.

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOLUME 53, No. 10 MAY 15, 1928

CONTENTS

LIBRARIES IN ILLINOIS *by Anna May Price* 431
THE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN AMERICAN CULTURAL LIFE *by Adolf Jürgens* 437
A MODERN LIBRARY IN STOCKHOLM 440
THE BEAVER COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL LIBRARY *by Helen M. Burgess* . . 442
SALARY GROWTH IN HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES 445
THE MONTEITH REGIONAL BRANCH IN DETROIT 448
EDITORIAL NOTES 450
LIBRARY WORK 451
ORGANIZATIONS 453
AMONG LIBRARIANS 455
CURRENT LITERATURE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY 456
OPPORTUNITIES 460

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

MAY 15, 1928

LIBRARIES IN ILLINOIS

By ANNA MAY PRICE.

Superintendent Library Extension Division, Illinois.

Illinois was one of the first states in the Middle West to adopt library legislation. The idea of maintaining public libraries by a tax in the same way that public schools were supported grew out of the early experiences of Peoria.

In 1855 two opposing religious factions started libraries. A year later all rivalry was laid aside and the libraries united under the name of the Peoria City Library, with a collection of fifteen hundred volumes. In 1865 the library had become so successful that it demanded a building of its own. Incorporation papers were taken out in the name of the Peoria Mercantile Library Association. A subscription fund was started which in a few weeks was sufficient to purchase a building. Rent was thus saved and the library had still to depend upon membership dues and entertainments.

E. S. Wilcox who afterwards became librarian of the Peoria Public Library drafted a bill which was introduced into the legislature by the Representative from Peoria, March 23, 1871.

On October 9 of that same year occurred the

PRESENT HOME OF THE PEORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

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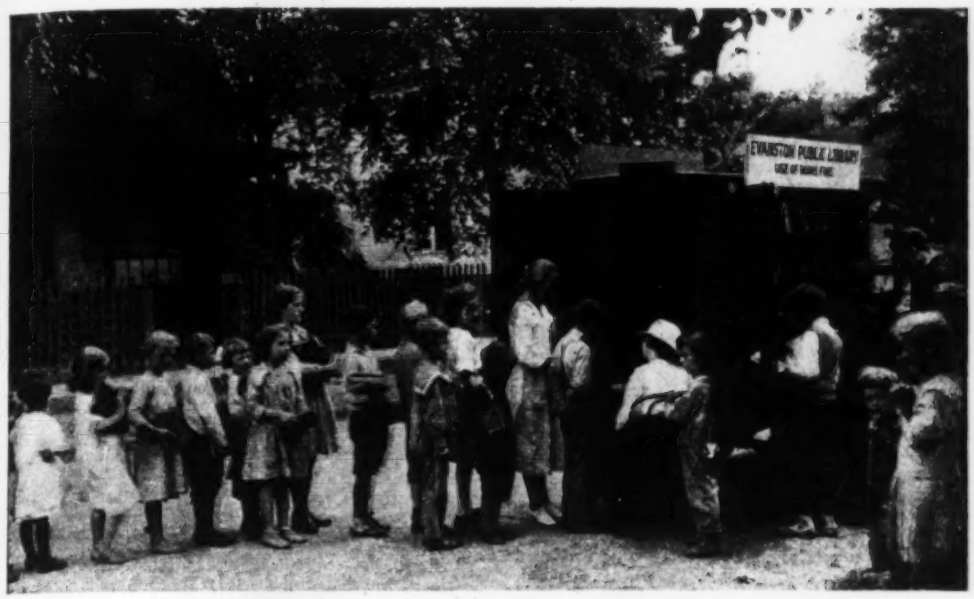
great Chicago fire, which so stirred the sympathies of the United States and Europe. Up to this date, Chicago had had no free public library, tho there was a Chicago Library Association, and the Young Men's Christian Association Library. Almost immediately after the fire, A. H. Burgess of London proposed a gift of a free library to Chicago. Thomas Hughes brought the plan before the Anglo-American Association and distributed circulars which stated that "The gift by the people of England of a new library to Chicago, is intended to be a mark of sympathy now, and a token of that sentiment of kinship which independently of circumstances and irrespectively of every other consideration, must ever exist between the different branches of the English Race."

The collection of books which was sent contained many rare and valuable volumes, among which was a complete set of the English Patent Office *Reports*, the *Calendar of State Papers* and the *Chronicles and Memorials* of the earliest transactions relating to Great Britain. Oxford University sent two hundred and fifty-four of its publications. The gift aroused a desire on the part of its friends in Chicago to have the new library maintained by taxation. The Mayor appointed a committee to prepare the proper legislation. On reaching Springfield with their bill, the Chicago Committee found that the Peoria bill had been introduced. The two committees got together and amendments were added to cover the needs of Chicago. The bill was passed by both houses and approved by the Government March 7, 1872. The bill had found many friends in the Legislature, owing to the fact that in various parts of the state libraries had been opened by "Ladies' Library Associations" and other organizations. Before the close of the year 1872, eight cities had ordinances establishing libraries under the new law, Elgin, Chicago, Rockford, Wausau, East St. Louis, Rock Island, Moline and Oregon.

In the fifty-five years which have followed these beginnings public libraries have increased until there are now 264, extending from Galena to Cairo.

Chicago with its population of 3,102,800 offers library service to very nearly one-half of the state. It reaches the people thru 732 distributing centers. The proposed system of regional branches differs from the usual branch library in other cities, in that the regional branch serves not only its immediate territory but acts as a center for other stations and branches. These regional branches are to be placed in the different sections of the city. The buildings are large and commodious and have unusually large and well selected collections of books. The Legler branch has been in operation for some years.

Among other cities with well developed branch libraries are Rockford, Evanston, Oak Park and Springfield. Illinois is peculiar in the fact that save Chicago, no other city has reached the population of 100,000. Rockford,



THE EVANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY'S BOOK VAN

Peoria and East St. Louis are fast nearing that figure.

The Evanston Public Library is carrying on a very fine example of co-operation with the public school system on a fifty-fifty financial basis. It has also a very interesting experience with the book wagon, having for eight summers operated a book truck in that part of the city furthest from any distributing center and least accessible by transportation from the main library. Comparing the truck service with that of branches in rented quarters issuing the same number of books, it was found to cost only about one-fourth as much.

Special library service to hospitals has been very successfully carried on for a number of years by the public libraries in Chicago, Springfield, Decatur, Galesburg, Freeport, Jacksonville, Peoria and Sterling.

Both Peoria and Springfield have special rooms devoted to business and technical collections. Peoria's record shows a count of 12,000 people who made use of these books last year.

Bloomington, Rockford and Peoria have given special attention to art, supplementing their book collections with exhibits of etchings and paintings. Peoria has had continuous exhibits of the works of local and other Illinois artists since the opening of its art room. Oregon has an art room for hanging the paintings of the Art Colony located near Oregon. An interested citizen gave to the Kewanee Library a fine selection of reproductions in color, illustrating the history of painting from the old masters to modern art. These are hung by schools and countries and offer a fine opportunity for study.

The Ryerson Library of the Art Institute, Chicago, has one of the largest and most complete reference libraries in the country. Included are many reproductions and slides which may be borrowed at slight cost. The Library Extension Division of the State Library at Springfield has a special collection of art books and periodicals, and many thousands of photographs and reproductions in color of all the European and American paintings, sculpture and architecture. Additions are made from time to time in the endeavor to make the collection as complete as possible.

The best musical libraries are to be found in the public libraries of Chicago, Evanston and Peoria. Music lovers may borrow opera scores and sheet music. Evanston has a sound-proof music room with a piano player and scores of records. Public concerts are often arranged for, but patrons at any time may have access to both piano and records.

Books for the blind may be found in the Chicago Public Library and the School for the Blind at Jacksonville. Neither collection is sufficiently large to permit lending to any but local borrowers.

The public libraries of the State very gener-

ally assist national, state and local organizations in their conferences with exhibits. The Lincoln Library at Springfield had a most attractive booth in the Boy Scout Exposition held in February. The Exhibit was given an advantageous location near the entrance. The display consisted of book shelves filled with real books to illustrate the material available bearing on each of the Merit Badge pamphlets, a typical camp library and a reading table with good editions of boys' favorite books. The boys themselves dropped in to read in the intervals of strenuous activities in the booths, and there was usually a group poring over the *Aviation Year Book*. The boys' appreciation of the library's taking part in the exhibit was practically demonstrated in the volunteer packing and return of the entire exhibit of books, pamphlets, posters and furniture in excellent order and without the loss of a thumb tack. The technical books of most value to Boy Scouts were later incorporated in the high school collection in the adult department of the Public Library.

Illinois has but one county library. Warren County voted to establish a library at the first election in November, after the county law was passed in 1919. The population of the county is about 20,000, the supervisors appropriate $15,000 annually, and have contracted with the Library Board of the Monmouth Public Library to extend the service thruout the county. The Monmouth Library has, in addition, an endowment fund and a building of its own. Twelve well-established branches, one in each township, have been opened, and two stations in rural schools. More extensive service to the schools will be made from now on as fast as possible.

Fifty township libraries offer the only other free service to rural communities. With a population of about seven million, there remain in Illinois about one and a half million people who must buy their service from some nearby library if they are to have library service.

An unusually large building program has been in progress during this year. Chicago has completed two new branch buildings, the south side branch and the Pullman branch. Bloomington and Winnetka completely remodeled their buildings, more than doubling the capacity and adding much to the attractiveness. Granite City and North Chicago have completed their plans and are letting contracts for new buildings. The Cole Public Library at Chester was dedicated April 22. It is one of the most beautiful, stately buildings in southern Illinois, the gift of Mr. Cole to the city. The Latzer heirs of Highland have given $75,000 for a building and equipment and $25,000 for endowment. The building plans have been most carefully drawn, and the beautiful building is assured. The Haish bequest of $150,000 for a building at DeKalb has been turned over to the Library trustees and plans are in progress, as are also plans for Memorial buildings at Prophetstown, Cambridge and Ashtown.

Chicago counts among its libraries two of the finest special reference libraries, the Newberry Library, specializing in literature, art, genealogy and fine old rare editions and manuscripts, and the John Crerar Library which leads in science and useful arts. These two libraries are supported entirely by endowments, and are free for public use. There are also the Chicago Historical Library and the Municipal Reference Library. Some of the finest types of special libraries are to be found in Chicago, as the H. M. Byllesby and Co., Peoples Gas and Coke Co., National Safety Council, Portland Cement, Sears Roebuck, Swift and Co., and the Harris Trust and Savings Bank.

There are fifty-two universities and colleges in Illinois, including the State University and five State Teachers Colleges. The University of Chicago Library has the largest collection of 739,213 volumes. Its Law and Medical Libraries form separate collections.

The University of Illinois, Urbana, ranks second in size of libraries with 683,338 volumes. It has recently been installed in its new building, the third unit, which will complete the building as it is planned for the present, is still under construction. The building which is Georgian in design is being erected at a cost of $1,750,000, provided by a state tax. The first floor on either side of the entrance foyer contains the two large reserve book rooms; the reading and reference room is on the second floor and runs the entire length of the building, or 296 feet. The delivery room is directly across the hall on this same floor. The giant steel book stacks are over ten stories high. The windows of the reading room carry distinctive decorative panels, representing the printers' marks used by the famous printers of early days.

The new Seymour Library of Knox College, Galesburg, was dedicated in March. The building is made of limestone, quarried on the farm of Mr. Seymour, the donor of the library. In addition to the main reading room, there are two others housing special collections, the Standish Room which brings together all the books bought with the Standish fund, and forms a library to encourage reading for the true pleasure of reading; the room is comfortably furnished and is open at all times to the student body. The other special room is for the Finley collection on the history and romance

NEW HOME OF THE ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

of the Northwest. It contains many rare and very valuable books on the Northwest, not otherwise accessible in Illinois.

The Illinois Library Association was organized in Springfield in January 1896, with Thomas H. Nelson as president and a membership of thirty or forty persons interested in library work. The Association has had a steady growth and has now a membership of over six hundred. Mrs. A. W. Errett, trustee of the Kewanee Township Library, is now president. Thru its annual conferences, the Association has had a stimulating influence in the progressive work of the libraries of the state, and its active legislative committees have done all in their power to secure adequate tax rates. In the last General Assembly a bill to increase the rate from 1.8 mills to 2.5 mills was passed by both houses without one dissenting vote. The bill was lost by the veto of Governor Small. The defeat of this bill will defer for another year expansion programs for many libraries.

The Illinois Library Extension Commission was established by an act of the Legislature in 1909, the office was opened in January 1910 in rooms in the Decatur Public Library. In 1914, the office was moved to the State House, Springfield. The Library Extension work in Illinois repeats the practice and procedure of library commissions of other states. The initial biannual appropriation was $3,000. It is now $55,000. There is a staff of eleven, a book collection of 50,000 volumes and one of the largest and most valuable picture collections in the state. The publications include the library laws, leaflets on county libraries, books and pictures, a quarterly bulletin, *Illinois Libraries*, and ten reading courses. A certificate is offered to anyone who will complete the reading for any of the extension courses, or those of the A. L. A. "Reading With a Purpose" series. Ninety certificates have been issued. Perhaps as satisfactory as any work undertaken by the Extension Division are the regional library conferences held in various parts of the state each spring. Thirteen have been held this year, with an attendance of 720, an increase over last year of 170, which is largely due to attendance of library trustees.

The State Library dates back to 1839, when the Legislature appropriated $5,000 for a law and miscellaneous library for the use of legislators and members of the Supreme Court. In 1812 the Law Library became a separate institution, and was put in custody of the Clerk of the Supreme Court. A law librarian was appointed in 1902, and when the Supreme Court building was erected adjacent to the State House, facing Capitol Avenue, special provision was made for housing the Law Library. When the Law Library and miscellaneous collection were separated, the latter was placed under control of the Secretary of State. A more definite organization was made in 1867, when an act was passed establishing a board of commissioners to govern affairs of the State Library. The Governor, Secretary of State and Superintendent of Public Instruction formed this Board, with the

Secretary of State holding the title of librarian. This organization continued until 1921 when under Louis L. Emmerson, Secretary of State, a new organization was made, which included the Illinois Library Extension Commission and created a new Archives Department. The State Library is now made up of three divisions, the General Division which is the old miscellaneous library, now grown into a library of 90,000 volumes, including the state and government documents; the Library Extension Division and the Archives Division, a most complete and well organized library of all state papers. Each Division has its own superintendent. The Secretary of State has still the title of State Librarian, and has also more complete control and direction, since the Board of Governors, Secretary of State and Superintendent of Public Instruction, with two other persons (who have never been appointed) have only power to make recommendations. The three divisions are housed in the new Centennial Building, as is also the State Historical Library.

The Historical Library was established by act of the General Assembly in 1887. It is controlled by three trustees well versed in the history of the state, appointed by the Governor. The Library has a large and comprehensive collection of books, periodicals and newspapers dealing with Illinois and the Middle West. The Lincoln collection which includes manuscripts, pictures and photographs and other museum material, is one of the most complete and authentic in existence.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY MOVEMENT IN BELGIUM

So LITTLE interest has been manifested in the history of public libraries in Belgium that no study exists of their origins and development except two works, both dating from 1840, and a fragmentary study of libraries in the province of Namur, writes Pierre Recht in the Historical Introduction to his *Les Bibliothèques Publiques en Belgique; Commentaire Pratique de la Loi du 17 October 1921* (Bruxelles: A. de Boeck, 1928).

The library movement began with and was developed after the publication of a circular on September 13, 1862, by the liberal Minister of the Interior, Van den Peereboom, recommending to provincial governors that they vote a subsidy of 1,000 francs for the benefit of libraries, and after episcopal charges recommending the creation of parochial libraries. The eighty-five libraries of 1865 increased to 571 in 1884, 770 in 1910, and 1,601 in 1920, in which year there were still 1,490 communes without libraries. All these projects were sporadic and isolated, and were kept going by local endeavor. Private enterprise was responsible for larger projects, the Willemsfonds (1851); la Ligue de l'Enseignement (1864) which owed its system of circulating libraries to the tireless energy of M. Nyns-Lagye, a pioneer in the history of Belgian public libraries; l'Oeuvre des Eglises Pauvres; the Davidsfonds; the Bibliothèques des Boerenbonden, and the Comité Central d'Education Ouvrière (1912). Eventually reading, still without being organized as a public service, was recognized as a public benefit by the government in 1890, when a credit of 50,000 (later 100,000) francs was provided for in the budget. In 1921 it still remained at 100,000 francs.

It was not until 1915 that the work was organized on a national scale. The need of books made itself pressingly felt in a country in which almost the entire population had been reduced to enforced idleness. It was then that M. Rouvez, director of public library service in the Ministry of Sciences and Arts, created a Comité Central des Oeuvres de Lecture Populaire. The Comité National put at its credit 13,000 francs. The Comité Central restored 132 libraries destroyed by the war and shipped books to 1,525 libraries. It still exists, and has founded 1,031 new libraries and circulated 1,225 boxes of books. The ministerial direction of libraries resumed its earlier activities in 1919, with the old appropriation of 100,000 francs, of which only 40,000 francs was available for stocking nearly 1,700 libraries with books. A radical change was evidently needed, and this came in the form of a suggestion of M. Rutten that a million and a half francs should be appropriated.

The law provided that communes may create new or adopt existing libraries. In communes where no libraries answering the requirements of the new law exist the communal administration is required to establish one when petitioned by voters representing one-fifth of the electoral body. Two or more communes are allowed by the King to join in adopting an intercommunal library. Every commune establishing or adopting a library is required to appropriate at least 25 centimes per capita for the support and development of the library. Public, communal, adopted or free libraries are entitled to subsidies from the state on the fulfillment of certain conditions covering bookstock, circulation, minimum hours of opening, and appointment of a certified librarian. In connection with the Ministry of Sciences and Arts, a Conseil Supérieur des Bibliothèques Publiques was created.

WHAT SOME FRIENDS IN EUROPE SAY ABOUT US

If you can think of any thing more instructive, helpful, suggestive, and welcome than the honest comments of any competent and openminded visitor, please stand up and name it. The Atlantic City conference of 1926 was memorable in several ways, and one of the healthiest was the chance it gave us to check our own ideas about our accomplishments and failures with the judgment of our friends from overseas who could look at our efforts with a detachment and perspective not granted to us ourselves.

Most of us have read with gratitude the report called *Some Impressions of the Public Library System of the United States of America*, published in 1927 by the Carnegie United Kingdom Trustees, wherein Miss Cooke and Messrs. Pitt, Powell, Savage, Nowell, and Wright set down in black and white some of their comments on their visit in 1926. *The Librarian and Book World*, of London, has a brief survey of "The American Library Position" in its issue for November, 1926 (16:90-92). And now comes Dr. Adolf Jürgens of the Bibliotheksausschuss of the Notgemeinschaft der Deutschen Wissenschaft of Berlin, who has given in the *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* (45:19-33. 1928) his own analysis of the present situation and the prospects for the future. A translation follows. It may be well to bring to mind in this connection also the study of "The Library's Function," written by Hans Hofmann, as part of the Adult Education Section of *The New Republic* for February 22, 1928, tho, to be sure, this latter has nothing to do with the 1926 conference.

Surveys of this kind have much of the quality of mercy, blessing him that gives the survey and him that is surveyed.

H. M. Lydenberg.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN THE CULTURAL LIFE OF THE UNITED STATES

By DR. ADOLF JÜRGENS

Of the Bibliotheksausschuss, Notgemeinschaft der Deutschen Wissenschaft

Albrecht Dürer, our German artist, has given us "Saint Jerome in His Cell," the beautiful picture of earnest research directed solely to recognition of sacred truth. The saint sits in his study, warm with a flood of sunlight, bent over a manuscript, and zealously pens a commentary on holy writ, forgetting the rest of the world. Other books lie on the window seat at his side. We see the sun beams stream thru the silent room and we follow them as they paint the very fibres of the wood of table and wall panels and project the circles of the window pane on wall and floor. Even the lion, constant companion of the saint, has lain down in quiet, and we hear only the pen of the Holy Man, anxious to express his thoughts.

This picture came to mind as I stood in the reading room of the Brownsville Children's Branch and headquarters of the Brooklyn Public Library,* in the midst of a working class section of Greater New York, and watched the swarming of a thousand black-haired and blond-haired children—the great hall quite filled with youngsters selecting their books, returning books, enjoying themselves, an institution for very consumption of books, with lines of children often waiting at its doors for admission. But in this whirlwind I saw also children sunk in thought, far removed from the world, children to whom this raging topsy turvy world seemed the normal life of the new continent, who were quite undisturbed by it. . . .

CONTRAST BETWEEN THE AMERICAN AND GERMAN LIBRARY IDEALS

In these pictures there lies a large measure of the differences and contrasts between the German and American library world: culture for the individual and culture for the masses, scholarship and education for the people, are the differing ideals. This is but natural moreover as the expression of the general ideal of culture; in Germany it looks to the highest development of a small group as its end and aim, in America it calls for development of the masses. The "average man" from the West, supporting the State University by his taxes, insists that the college course be so arranged as to be accessible to his children, not closed to them because of too stringent entrance requirements, particularly because attending college has come more and more to be as necessary for success in business life as in the world of society. College presidents, good business men themselves, give full consideration to these demands, in the same way that sport has come to play a part in the development of the students that is quite un-

* Brownsville is not the Headquarters of the Brooklyn library system.—Translator.

known with us. The fact that courses for intermediate library service, attended by young women with none too extensive a background or foundation, are universally regarded as a university branch of study, and special "institutes" for work of this kind are conducted by various colleges, expresses the essence of the characteristics thus depicted. On the other hand we must not forget that at each of these colleges real scientific work is also carried on, that the student of library science comes into contact with this work also and perhaps is benefited by it. I can only mention in passing the very earnest efforts of the American Library Association to raise the standards of librarianship, and call attention to the minimum requirements thus set up.* To avoid misunderstanding let me here point out that most of the larger libraries of America are administered by men of full academic attainment, a way that to the European point of view seems more fortunate than the establishment and bestowal of definite grades for the completion of a purely technical course in library work. In a review of the general picture of American scholarship let me set forth the fact that there are some 950 colleges, in each of which there is for example at least one professor teaching pure mathematics, one professor moved by the zeal of productive research; this fact alone indicates a wealth of opportunities for talent, if only the low estimation in which the world of scholarship is generally held can be overcome. Tho America has no Minister of Culture or Education, the great foundations, like the Rockefeller Foundation, and others, have recognized this fault of a too superficial attitude towards research on the part of many colleges, and the appeal of research in completing general popular education grows stronger and stronger. American scholars have come to play an important and leading role in many fields in the last few decades, and not only where great financial resources are the only guaranty of success. And the number of American periodicals indispensable to German research workers is growing larger all the time, as we librarians know. In general, to use a metaphor, it seems to me that in America the cultivation of the sciences and humanities is a matter of machine agriculture, while in Europe, with its older and narrower circumstances, it is hand cultivation seeking to cultivate a garden with none too rich a soil.

STATISTICS FOR JUDGING AS TO THE POSITION OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARIES

In the library field as one of the most significant branches of the cultural life these contrasts stand out. The Prussian State Library, which is scarcely comparable in this connection, has with its income of 1,800,000 marks only one-fifth of the income of the Detroit Public Library in 1925, with proper adjustment for the foreign exchanges,* tho the importance of its books, not only for scholars, is incomparably greater.

The Berlin City Library, which is really more properly to be compared to Detroit, received 335,000 marks in 1926. This included the Municipal Library, but did not include the district libraries, which correspond to the branch libraries of Detroit.

Now to compare two sets of figures in another field, let me say that the Prussian State Library circulates 465,000 volumes a year, the City Library of Berlin 1,684,120 volumes, (2,930,433 including all branches); the Cleveland Public Library, in a city of 900,000, a library of the most modern type, circulated 6,000,000 volumes**; the New York Public Library (which with its two divisions, the Reference Department and the Circulation Department, exercises for New York much the same functions as the State Library and the City Library do for Berlin) had 1,586,623 readers in its Reference Department in 1925, consulting 3,347,738 volumes, with the Circulation Department circulating 9,018,339 volumes. Naturally nothing is said as to the cultural quality of the results. In the United States there are in the District of Columbia certain places in which more than a third of the residents are registered borrowers. How difficult it is to get a well defined picture in this field is shown by the complaints I have heard from university professors that their students do not buy books. They rely entirely on the Library, which naturally harms the student's intimate relationship to books. There too as in Germany the private library is made a difficult thing to cultivate because people move so frequently and because the trend is so markedly towards smaller dwellings, altho novels have for some years been the most popular gift. In regard to the general relation between people and the book the booksellers—relatively unorganized—play an important part. So far as selling books is concerned the newsdealer and stationer play a more important part than with us. I have set these general remarks and particular observations down here so that the lively activity of American libraries and librarians, the size of the figures by which the effectiveness of libraries is measured in America, may not

* A.L.A. Board of Education for Librarianship. *Second Annual Report.* Chicago, 1926.

* The *Publishers' Weekly*, volume 119 (1926), number 4, gives a comparison of income of the larger libraries of the United States, in which statement an income of over a million dollars is by no means uncommon.

** Similarly the other large public libraries.

lead to false conclusions. My visit to that vast country lasted but two months, was filled naturally with new impressions, and certainly was not sufficient to justify final judgment on the cultural value and the meaning of many phenomena, much less to explain how much the money spent on such things has to do with results, or how much reason there is for Europe to follow American methods in view of the restricted financial resources of Europe. But I certainly have received a very clear impression of the spirit that has carried American public libraries to their present attainments, and what is the place of the American library in its own country.

America today is the richest country in the world in libraries. Enrique Sparn* has shown in his useful studies of the geography of civilization that America already has one-third of all libraries in the world owning more than 50,000 volumes, altho the country can look back upon a cultural history of only a hundred and fifty years.

So far as statistics are concerned we are admirably informed about American libraries in the statistical publications of the Bureau of Education giving reports on this phase of educational work from time to time. Only a short while ago a report *Statistics of Public, Society, and School Libraries* was published for 1923**, from which I take the following:

The Bureau in 1923 circularized 18,000 libraries of this kind and received reports from 11,113 that were useful for statistics. There were 8,544 libraries containing more than 1,000 volumes apiece, with a total of 126,914,414 volumes. There were 2,569 smaller libraries with a total of 1,437,554 volumes. Of the first class 3,689 libraries had an average of more than 5,000 volumes; 24 with more than 500,000. Comparison with 1913 when a similar report was made, as was common every 5 to 5 [*sic.* 5 to 6, or 5 to 10?] years, indicated an increase of 810 in the larger libraries with more than 5,000 volumes, with a decrease of 598 in the number of libraries with 1,000 to 5,000 volumes. The statistics for 1923 give detailed figures for libraries with more than 3,000 volumes, of which the following are of interest†:

5,080 libraries with 2,844 lending branches contain 120,841,060 volumes. Growth in 1923: 6,565,652 [4,335]; number of borrowers' cards in force; 13,756,738 [3,110]; home use: 207,709,650 volumes [3,199]; number of paid library employees: 18,719 [3,587]; building force, janitors, etc.: 3,758 [2,230]; total income: $44,686,394 [3,773], of which $28,010,202 [2,754] came from taxes, $3,108,143 from institutions or corporations [734], $11,085,430 [2,719] from all other sources. This last item includes particularly permanent endowment funds amounting to $97,797,617.

4,087 libraries gave detailed reports about the way some forty million dollars were spent:

for purchases of books	$ 8,683,144	[3816]
for binding	2,021,550	[2495]
for salaries	21,974,624	[3375]
for all other objects	6,871,682	[2895]

For the libraries with 1,000 to 3,000 volumes the following reports were made:

Number reporting	3,464	
Number of branches	772	
Number of volumes	6,039,524	
Growth in 1923	174,377	[2718]
Number of readers cards in use	686,004	[1799]
Home use	5,245,861	[1412]
Income	$1,260,258	[2286]
Expenditures	$1,328,660	[2560]

The document furthermore contains detailed statistics about each of the libraries submitting reports arranged by states.

FUNDAMENTAL IDEALS OF THE LIBRARY MOVEMENT

This development, which falls particularly within the last fifty years, could take place only because it has been based on a belief in the book as a factor in education not felt to the same degree in skeptical Europe. "The best books for the largest number at the least cost" has been the battle cry for this fight for the cultural mission of the good book. Popular education is the great end of the American library movement and in that the library takes its place with or indeed above the school. These thoughts were nurtured particularly by the American Library Association and its leaders. Public opinion has welcomed these ideas most thoroly because public education by means of the library meets an essential element of American character, since it offers the most effective means of self education in contrast to the more authoritative position of the school. In the "self made man" is expressed the best type of the student who works his way thru college, in spite of the lesser amount of freedom enjoyed by university teaching over there than with us. The library movement is encouraged by every one interested in good government because it is the most important means of educating the

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* *Las Bibliotecas con 50,000 y mas Volumenes y su Distribution Geografica sobre la Tierra.* Cordoba, 1924. 9 p.

** United States. Department of the Interior. Bureau of Education Bulletin (1926) number 9.

† The number of libraries reporting is shown inside the square brackets.

masses in a sense of civic responsibility, a field in which education in political science has still greater problems than in Europe where national states with more homogeneous populations are the rule. The "work with the foreign born" and "Americanization" include the adult immigrants. Of greater significance is the cultivation of correct English by means of good books for the children, who usually learn only a mixture of languages at home. Libraries also try to encourage a sense of civic responsibility by extending the knowledge of the activity of the American government, for example, by bringing to the attention of the citizen, in a way quite unknown to us, the extremely extensive public documents of the federal government, so different from ours. The public library thus takes its place in the midst of American life as an educational and teaching factor, making itself useful also in increasing fashion for the American trend towards facts and information about facts, endeavoring, for example, to make itself indispensable to the business man by establishment of a "business branch" as a help for him in his business enterprise. It is a veritable missionary spirit that inspires the movement and its leaders, and among the leaders I mention but one, the gigantic figure, still unbroken, of Dewey, whose fine hand and gleaming eye set forth an artist and a preacher, who is not only the creator of the Decimal Classification but also the founder of the A. L. A. now just completing its fiftieth year. It is indeed indicative of the great depth of idealism dwelling in the American people that this largest union of librarians known to the world is not so much a representative of a certain profession or a guild, altho the economic condition of its members might partly have urged such an attitude, perhaps more than in Europe, as it is a free association of idealists, protagonists of popular education by means of the book. It would certainly carry us too far afield, were I here to point out the characteristics of the American people, with its optimism, its love of competition, co-operation, standardizing, that show themselves in the A. L. A.: optimism that presses forward unfrightened to the realization of the greatest dreams; that in many realms makes a beginning even if completion is denied, under circumstances where in Europe when one realizes that no finality is possible one is content to do nothing; the spirit of competition that lets every novelty have a chance at repetition, that constantly tries to beat the record, tries new methods even with danger of error, the spirit of co-operation and standardization that I have considered elsewhere in detail.*

As the A. L. A. and its members, who are the working force in American libraries, show these emphatic American traits of character, in just the same measure have the libraries attained a distinguished position in the consciousness of the American people, in the American states, in city, school, university—a position that to the rest of the world, in the best sense of the word, expresses American efforts towards culture.

* *Minerva-Zeitschrift*, Jahrgang 3, Heft 1.

(To be concluded)

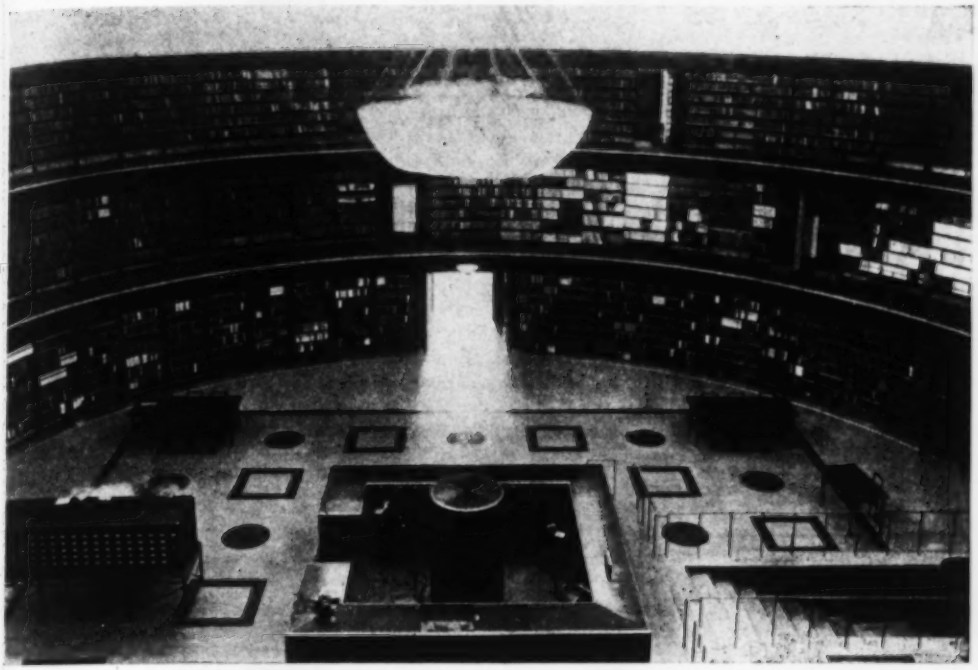
A MODERN LIBRARY IN STOCKHOLM

THE new Public City Library of Stockholm patterned after American institutions of this kind, has just been opened. Incorporating all the latest technical arrangements, assuring free access for the public to the books without deposits or fees, the library occupies a high position among the libraries of Europe.

The huge building, designed along simple but striking lines by the Swedish architect, Erik Gunnar Asplund, has been erected at the corner of two busy thorofares in the center of the city, involving a total construction cost of $670,000. The running expenses of the library and its three branches, located in various parts of Stockholm, are calculated at about $93,800 annually, while $24,120 are reserved for the purchase of new books every year.

The new building contains 150,000 volumes, of which 50,000 are directly accessible to the readers with assistance from the librarians. The three smaller branches contain some 50,000 volumes, so that the complete stock of the library thus totals 200,000 volumes.

In addition to the City Library, Stockholm has some thirty special libraries, such as the Royal Library, the largest in Sweden, which dates from about 1523, the Nobel Library of foreign fiction and poetry, said to contain the most complete collection in this field now existing, the Stockholm Hall of Records, dating from the Middle Ages, as well as those of the Academy of Sciences, the Academy of History, and the Academy of Art,—all founded some centuries ago. These libraries have restricted activities, while the new Public Library has adopted the motto: "Books should circulate like money," thereby attempting to extend its services to the public in the widest sense.



ABOUT 50,000 VOLUMES ARE DIRECTLY ACCESSIBLE TO STOCKHOLM READERS. See p. 440

THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT OF THE NEW PUBLIC LIBRARY AT STOCKHOLM

THE BEAVER COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL LIBRARY

BY HELEN M. BURGESS

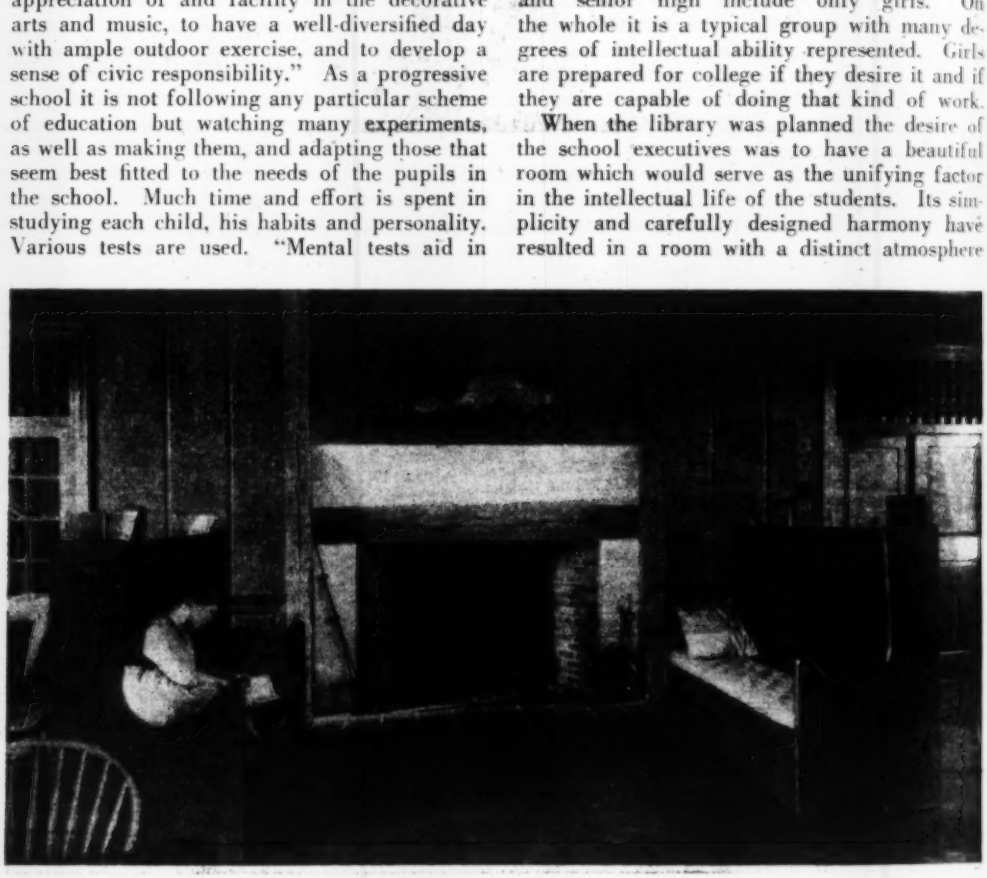
Librarian of the Beaver Country Day School, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

THE Beaver Country Day School is a private school in Chestnut Hill, one of the suburbs of Boston. It was organized in 1921 and the first unit of the building was finished in 1924. Other units have been and are still being added, and last November the library was completed and opened to the student body. In order to understand this type of library it is essential to know about the school itself which has many interesting features directly affecting the work of the library.

As a Country Day School it has an all day session. "Besides the academic subjects, it gives opportunity to acquire practical skill in work-shop, sewing-room, and kitchen, to develop appreciation of and facility in the decorative arts and music, to have a well-diversified day with ample outdoor exercise, and to develop a sense of civic responsibility." As a progressive school it is not following any particular scheme of education but watching many experiments, as well as making them, and adapting those that seem best fitted to the needs of the pupils in the school. Much time and effort is spent in studying each child, his habits and personality. Various tests are used. "Mental tests aid in determining the abilities of the pupils, and the kinds of work, in school and out, for which they are best fitted. Subject matter 'standardized' tests are used to compare with the judgments of the teachers, to help in placing the pupils in classes, and to find their individual needs. . . . Much attention is also given to analysis of difficulties, and the organization is kept flexible, that methods and courses can be varied whenever this is found to be desirable."

Altho the student body is small it has a great variety. In the Lower School which comprises the 4th, 5th and 6th grades the classes have both boys and girls. The 7th grade has one section of boys and the other years of junior and senior high include only girls. On the whole it is a typical group with many degrees of intellectual ability represented. Girls are prepared for college if they desire it and if they are capable of doing that kind of work.

When the library was planned the desire of the school executives was to have a beautiful room which would serve as the unifying factor in the intellectual life of the students. Its simplicity and carefully designed harmony have resulted in a room with a distinct atmosphere



THE FIRE-PLACE SETTLES ARE BACKED WITH BOOK SHELVES

of beauty, charm and quiet which will have untold effect upon the general attitudes of the students toward study, research and recreational reading.

The room is a spacious one, about sixty-six by thirty-four feet, occupying the second floor of the southwest wing. Directly opposite the main entrance is a large fireplace, simply set off by old beams, and above it a gilded beaver, probably an old fur-store sign, watches the activity of the room. Two of our treasures are the iron hooks which hold the fire-irons. These came from Peregrine White's house. On either side of the fireplace settles offer a comfortable spot for reading for fun or for dreams as one watches the flames. The backs of these settles contain shelves, a distinct addition to our book capacity as well as an attractive feature for special exhibits or reserves. The room is open to the ridge pole and huge beams from one of the old buildings of New England lend a dignity to the general effect. Twelve windows on the south and north sides give ample natural light with the new glass which admits the vital violet rays. Low window seats are favorite seats. The book-shelves are built between the windows and extend to the beams. Overhead indirect lighting was impractical with the beamed ceiling yet provision had to be made for dull days. Each section of books has its lights directly above it so that one may easily read the titles even on the lower shelves. The long trestle tables are each equipped with two lamps which have a clever pulley arrangement on a long wire so that they can be moved about the table at will and need not be in one's way. Every effort has been made to avoid eye strain on the part of the readers, an important factor in the life of the growing child. The two ends of the room have been sheathed with beautiful old pine panels, rubbed to a dull brown which is the basis for the color scheme. This is brightened by dull burnt orange window hangings and cushions with the interior of the book sections painted to match. The result is amazingly beautiful.

In order to heighten the effect of the private library it was decided to have the vertical files and catalog cases built into the wall spaces. Storage cupboards of various sizes are tucked into extra spaces—even the window and settle seats are hollow and form excellent places for storing files of magazines of the ordinary size. There is no work-room so it is convenient to have so much storage space at hand.

This library serves the junior and senior high schools directly while the lower school has its own more accessible to its classrooms. At present this is a classroom which has been adapted as a library but when the last building unit is erected a smaller, but equally attractive library will be built for this part of the school. Before there was a regular library most of the teachers used classroom collections very largely. Two of these have for various reasons been turned into small libraries—the Art Library

OPEN BEAMS ENHANCE THE FEELING OF SPACIOUSNESS

MOVABLE LAMPS LIGHT THE TABLES

and the French Library. These are all centrally cataloged—some day I hope they will have their own catalogs—and they have the same charging system as the larger library. While this may seem somewhat elaborate for a small school it is proving a distinct advantage for the users. The Parents and Teachers Library adjoins the upper school library. Here are found books and magazines dealing with child study and tendencies in modern education, files of educational material and a text-book collection. At present the room is used more by the teachers than the parents, and this is one of the interesting opportunities for the future.

The basic difficulty in the administration of many school libraries is that of inadequate facilities, primarily lack of sufficient seating capacity to take care of the demands. This in turn affects all the work, necessitating regulations for admittance, for conduct in the room, etc. A school librarian would often like to have perfect freedom in the use of her room but too often this is not possible. That is to me one of

WIDE SETTLES DIVIDE ONE END INTO COMFORTABLE ALCOVES

the greatest joys of the Beaver Library—the room is always open (the doors do not even possess keys) for anyone's use. A student may study anything she likes. Even if she does not use any of the library resources, she works upon any problem of research which is interesting her, she may read anything for pleasure or she may be apparently idle, tho there is no telling what seeds may be sprouting in her mind. I have watched girls writing poetry or sketching designs which may blossom forth in block prints, pieces of jewelry or wood craft. Before the library was opened the Student Council was asked to make suggestions for the use of the room, rules if you will. The one desire was for a quiet place where one could work with concentration. They have it. When there is interest in the subject in hand as the chief motivation you find youngsters working with an intensity which is rather startling to older people who did not study in that fashion. The reference work does follow the curriculum very closely and is similar to that in schools which are following the project plan or the socialized recitation scheme, for these are, of course, used as the subject matter demands. It is frequently more detailed in its demands than I have previously experienced. This year the work has been entirely that of recataloging and organizing the wealth of illustrative material which has been gathered in the past. Without a complete catalog it has been impossible to give any systematic course in the use of the library resources but in the fall that will be done—in the spirit of the progressive school.

The growth of any library is a fascinating process and in this particular instance it is hoped that it can demonstrate its value to a school which "regards itself as part of the educational system of the country, in which the public schools are the major factor, and hopes that by its independent position and flexible organization it will be able to contribute to education by more immediate and consistent demonstration of educational principles than is feasible in larger and more rigid systems. It has, therefore, two aims; first, to give the best training in its power to the pupils entrusted to it, and second, to help in every way it can the movement toward better educational advantages for all children."

SALARY GROWTH IN HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES

A GENERAL upward trend in the salaries paid to the chief librarians of junior and senior high school libraries may be gathered from a comparison of the first table of such statistics to be published by the American Library Association, which appeared in the May 1925 *Bulletin*, with a similar table published in the *Bulletin* two years later. A second table appeared in June 1926. An increase in the number of school librarians employed is not necessarily accompanied by a reduction in the scale of salaries, Philadelphia being the chief exception. New York had nine more positions in 1927 than in 1925, but the minimum and maximum salaries remained the same.

Atlanta, which had four school librarians in 1924-25, now has six. The minimum salary for chief librarians dropped from $1020 to $960. The maximum of $1200 remains the same. Baltimore, which had four, now has seven. The minimum remains at $1000, but the maximum has been raised to $1440. Berkeley, Calif., now pays its chief school librarian $2120 instead of $1800. Birmingham, Ala., has raised the minimum for its three librarians from $1300 to $1500 and its maximum from $1425 to $1625. Boston, reporting for the first time in the third table, has three school librarians, and the range is from $1824 to $2016. Bridgeport, Conn., in adding two librarians to its previous one, dropped the minimum from $2190 to $1900 and raised the maximum from $2190 to $2390. Buffalo, not represented in the latest table, had eight librarians in 1924-25, and ranged in salary from $1600 to $2100.

In the following table, listing those cities which have appeared in at least two tables, thus making comparison possible, the minimum and maximum salaries given are for chief librarians. Only a scattering of libraries have professional assistants. In Detroit and Washington, however, these are not far behind chief librarians in salaries paid, the range in the former city being from $1700 to $2600, the maximum of which is only $200 less than the maximum for chief librarians.

City	*Number of Librarians*			*Minimum*			*Maximum*		
	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27
Atlanta, Ga.	4	4	6	1020	1020	960	1200	1200	1200
Baltimore, Md.	4	5	7	1000	1000	1000	1340	1340	1440
Berkeley, Calif.	1	1	1	1800	1960	2120	——	——	——
Birmingham, Ala.	3	3	3	1300	1400	1500	1425	1525	1625
Bridgeport, Conn.	1	2	3	2190	——	1900	——	——	2390

City	Number of Librarians			Minimum			Maximum		
	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27
Buffalo, N. Y.	8	—	—	1600	1600	——	2400	2400	——
Chicago, Ill.	7	7	7	1680	1800	1800	1980	2100	2100
Cincinnati, Ohio	7	7	7	1400	1400	1400	1800	2800	1800
Cleveland, Ohio	19	22	23	1700	1440	1500	2500	2600	2700
Denver, Colo.	11	17	19	1350	1350	1350	2200	2500	3000
Detroit, Mich.	21	28	28	1600	1700	1700	2700	2700	2800
Duluth, Minn.	2	2	3	1100	1100	1775	2125	1775	2550
Erie, Pa.	3	3	3	850	1000	1000	1250	1600	1400
Evansville, Ind.	—	3	3	——	1300	1400	——	1500	1500
Flint, Mich.	1	7	4	2160	1450	1450	——	2200	2280
Forth Worth, Texas	4	—	4	900	——	810	1125	——	1350
Gary, Ind.	1	1	1	1500	1500	1500	——	——	——
Grand Rapids, Mich.	—	12	7	——	1440	1500	——	2400	2500
Houston, Texas	2	—	3	1800	——	1800	2000	——	2100
Jersey City, N. J.	2	3	3	1680	1860	1980	1920	2100	2100
Kansas City, Mo.	2	3	2	1850	1950	2000	2200	2300	2300
Louisville, Ky.	6	8	8	750	800	800	1400	1500	1500
Milwaukee, Wis.	7	7	—	1060	1060	——	1540	1540	——
Minneapolis, Minn.	10	10	9	1500	1500	1650	2500	2500	2500
New Bedford, Mass.	1	1	3	2300	2450	1425	——	——	2600
New Haven, Conn.	2	—	—	1250	——	1500	1500	——	1600
New York, N. Y.	65	70	74	1500	1500	1500	2700	2700	2700
Newark, N. J.	4	4	5	2800	3000	——	3360	3600	3840
Oakland, Calif.	10	11	11	1740	1740	1740	2580	2400	2820
Philadelphia, Pa.	9	9	13	2150	2150	2050	3200	3200	3025
Pittsburgh, Pa.	12	16	14	1975	1975	1975	3200	3200	3200
Rochester, N. Y.	10	—	9	1700	——	1450	2600	——	2550
Rockford, Ill.	2	2	—	1000	1050	——	1650	——	——
St. Joseph, Mo.	1	1	1	1500	1500	1500	——	——	——
San Diego, Calif.	4	11	10	1752	1584	1836	2500	2600	2700
Sioux City, Ia.	1	1	1	1740	——	1620	——	1620	——
Somerville, Mass.	1	1	1	1500	1500	1500	——	——	——
Spokane, Wash.	2	2	2	2250	2350	2150	2250	2350	2350
Tacoma, Wash.	2	2	—	2040	2040	——	2200	2200	——
Trenton, N. J.	—	3	3	——	1600	1700	——	3400	3400
Washington, D. C.*	8	10	10	1600	[a]1400 [b]2300	1400 1400	1800 1800	[a]2200 [b]2600	2200
Yonkers, N. Y.	2	3	—	1825	1850	——	3000	3150	——
Youngstown, Ohio	2	2	6	1700	1800	1450	2000	2100	2400

* (a) and (b) refer to classification in Congressional schedules.

A COMPLETE AND BEAUTIFUL BUILDING

To the Editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL:

A short time ago there appeared in the LIBRARY JOURNAL an article on the fundamentals of library buildings for colleges and universities. The points stressed are those which would be approved by anyone who has had anything to do with such buildings. They would seem to be fundamental. But these fundamentals may be expressed in different ways. It would be a sad thing if every university had to be cast in the same mold and even the library building has a right to some individuality. It is also true that sometimes unsurmountable obstacles make it necessary to deviate from the fundamentals. In a discussion at one of the mid-winter meetings of university librarians a prominent librarian speaking on this very subject said that many features of his building would be different had he been free to do as he liked. If the proposed manual of university and college library buildings should materialize, let us hope that the editors will have such a breadth of view that there will be a sympathetic attitude toward the architect (and even the librarian) who is confronted with such difficulties.

One of the two buildings mentioned by name in the article referred to, as glaring examples of what ought not to be, had just such a difficulty to face. The legislative appropriation read: "For construction of library to cost $250,000 complete." The word "complete" was inserted at the last minute by a senator, who presumably knew very little about library buildings, and it was accepted by the senator who was pushing the appropriation because he "didn't think it would make any difference." What a difference it made, only the architect and the librarian knew. No false walls, no evident provision for the future, everything to be contained

in a "complete" building. There were other problems to be solved that were peculiar to that university, but the architect was able to meet them all, providing for all the fundamentals mentioned in the article save only one. He could not provide for "enlargement of the building without unnecessary expense." A statutory limitation forbade it.

However, the statement that the library of the Ohio State University cannot be enlarged and adapted for satisfactory use is not a fact. The architect submitted to the trustees a plan for enlargement when the preliminary plans of the building were first being considered. It is a feasible plan. Another plan has been discussed which is also feasible. Others may develop when the practical question of enlargement comes up. Of course, any plan will call for an expenditure of money which would not have been necessary had it not been for that word "complete." And sometimes one wonders whether after all it is not worth while to spend some money in order to have had for fifteen years a complete and beautiful building on the university campus.

OLIVE JONES,
Associate Professor of Bibliography,
Ohio State University.

THE PERTH AMBOY PUBLIC LIBRARY 1891-1927

LIKE so many other American public libraries, the Perth Amboy (N. J.) Public Library, which publishes a 25-year review with its report of 1927 just issued, had its beginnings in a subscription library. The Perth Amboy Library Company, organized by a group of citizens in 1825, was disbanded ten years later. In August 1888 the Perth Amboy Library Association was formed by a group of women. During the presidency of Mrs. W. H. McCormick in 1891 the library was incorporated under the state law. The first paid librarian was Mrs. Alice Miller, who was followed by Margaret Hart, who served until the organization of the present library in 1903. In 1896 the Free Public Library was established and came under the support of the municipality rather than private subscriptions. The library was housed in four different places prior to its coming to rest in the present Carnegie building, built at a cost of $20,000 and formally opened December 9, 1903, with five thousand volumes on its shelves and about 1800 borrowers. In October 1914 an additional appropriation of $30,000 was obtained from the Carnegie Corporation for the purpose of adding the present front of the building and making interior alterations. The library continued to grow at such a rate that in 1922 the children's room was moved from the front of the building to larger quarters in the rear, with a separate entrance. This enlargement and the equipment of the successful branch library in School No. 11 were financed by special bond issue. With the Carnegie Corporation no longer available for additions to the library or for erecting new quarters, the library in the course of its twenty-fifth annual report appeals to the municipality for more substantial support, which will raise its appropriation above the present 53 cents per capita, increase its book stock of 26,500 volumes and allow for classroom libraries and enlarged service to hospitals. The library has grown faster in the last five years than it had in the twenty years previous.

EXHIBIT OF LIBRARY PLANS

AT the request of certain librarians, there will be presented at the A. L. A. College and Reference Sectional meeting on Wednesday, May 30th, certain library plans for new buildings under consideration. Any librarian who cares to present plans of new buildings for consideration of those interested will find wall space available. Such plans should be posted before the meeting on Wednesday afternoon.

C. H. BROWN, *Chairman.*

LIBRARY DESTROYED BY FIRE—DUPLICATES WANTED

ON the evening of April 24 the entire library of Emory and Henry College, Emory, Virginia, was destroyed by a fire which consumed the administration building in which it was housed. The fire was discovered by the librarian when she left the building at six o'clock and noticed a column of smoke pouring from the roof. The alarm was immediately given and fire-trucks came from the nearby towns in a few minutes but all that could be done was to save the neighboring buildings. The furniture and records from the dean's and president's offices were practically all that were saved.

The loss from the library itself is almost irreparable for it contained a number of old books, including first editions which were in the process of recataloging and of course were lost. A few, however, were in the vault and it is hoped that they are safe.

The school term continues in spite of this loss so the library must be restocked as soon as possible. Donations from libraries or individuals will be very much appreciated.

THE MONTEITH REGIONAL BRANCH IN DETROIT

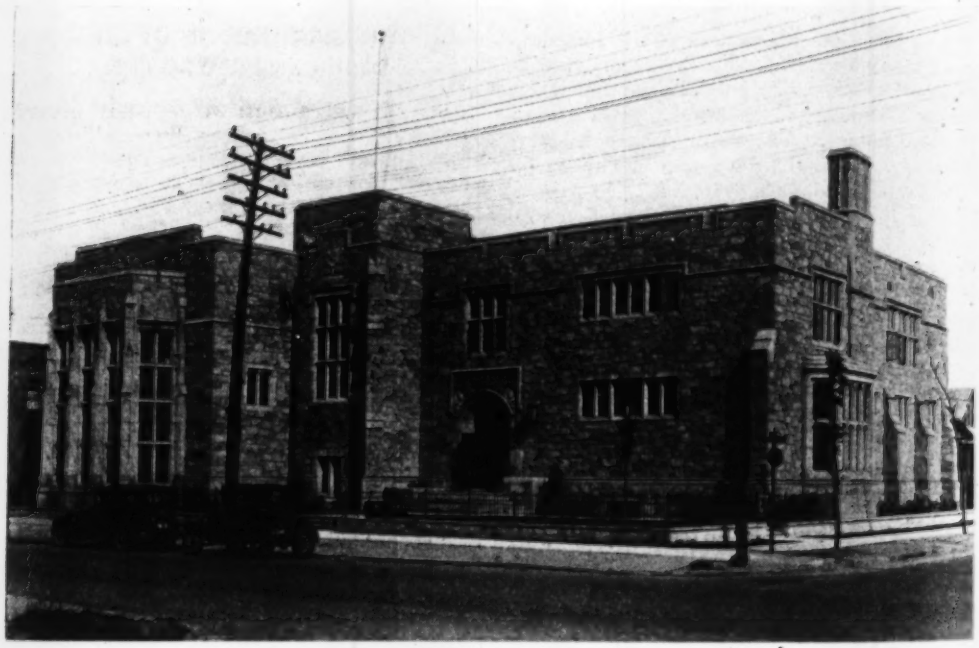
THE newest and largest of Detroit's branch libraries, the seventeenth to be housed in a building of its own, is the first to be designed in accordance with the regional plan—a comparatively recent idea in branch library development.

A better expression would be a regional library, rather than a branch library. Its circle of activities will be about five miles in diameter. It has accommodations for 50,000 volumes, and storage facilities in addition. Boys and girls will have a floor to themselves, as will the older readers, and in all essentials the agency will function and will be conducted with its own independent resources.

The site of the building was purchased in 1923 for $22,500, the plot being about one hundred feet square. The cost of the building complete and ready for use is: construction, $196,369; furniture and equipment, $12,135.

The building is of Plymouth granite and distinctive features of the exterior are the leaded-glass casement windows, the symbolical carving over the stair tower, and the large bay window of the Main Reading Room, which is fitted with a display case for books and bulletins. The style of the building is English—formal and yet intimate in character.

Upon entering, one passes thru a slate-floored, brick-walled vestibule with groined-arched ceiling directly into the delivery room which is the central feature of the plan, with the reference room to the right, and on the left the main reading room. Entrance to these rooms is thru stone Gothic arches; the work space, service stairs and offices are to the rear of the main reading room and accessible to the delivery room. The main reading room is the full two stories in height with wooden trusses which carry the roof above. These trusses are carved and the braces at their ends rest upon stone corbels carved into figures symbolical of three of Michigan's leading industries, which are, in historical sequence, fur, lumber and automobiles. The stained glass panels in the bay window trace the history of printing and of the book. The dark oak ceiling and furniture, the high leaded-glass windows, the beautifully designed lighting fixtures together with the bright covers of the books on the shelves give to this room the air of rich and quiet dignity which one associates with old libraries, and create an atmosphere which seems especially suited to quiet reading. The leaded-glass bay window in the reference room carries stained-glass medallions picturing Pontiac, La Salle, Cadil-



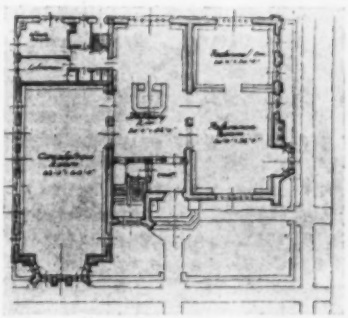
PLYMOUTH GRANITE HAS BEEN USED FOR THE INTERIOR

STAINED GLASS MEDALLIONS AND PANELS LEND COLOR TO THE READING ROOM

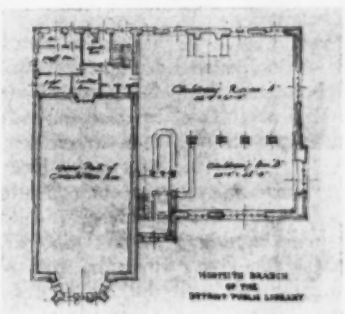
lac's coat of arms, and the seals of the city of Detroit, the State of Michigan, and the University of Michigan.

The door on the left side of the vestibule as one enters is the public entrance to two attractive basement clubrooms, one of which will be used for the children's story-hour room. The larger of these two rooms is equipped with a stage and fireplace.

The public stairway leading to the second floor is of attractive dark-colored slate. On the landing is a large window in which are set three stained-glass medallions picturing a selection from *Mother Goose*, an old horn book, and the John Newbery medal, awarded annually by the Children's Section of the A. L. A. for the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children. The second floor space is devoted largely to two rooms for children, the room for the older children being separated from the large room by pillars and bookshelves. On three sides of the children's rooms are groups of casement windows, three of which come nearly to the floor with long window seats beneath them. On the wall which faces the entrance is a tiled fireplace, with seats set at right angles to it, and around the opening of the fireplace are inset tiles showing conventional designs of animals.



MAIN FLOOR



UPPER FLOOR

Much thought has been given to simplifying as much as possible the mechanical processes of charging and discharging the books. As the children enter their books are placed on the desk at the left to be discharged. Leaving the room by another door, the books which they are taking home are charged at the opposite side of the desk. The arrangement seems to be as nearly perfect as possible for doing this work quickly.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

MAY 15, 1928

THE assured election of Linda Eastman as the fourth woman president of the American Library Association will be a deserved recognition of a great library executive and a true heroine in the library profession. When ten years ago as she stood with William H. Brett in the "safety zone" of a Cleveland street, after a consultation on the planning for the coming library in which she had been his close associate, there came that frightful accident which ended his life. She recovered from the dreadful horror of grief and loss to take up in personal and professional loyalty and undaunted courage the task which he left unfinished. Thru her executive genius that task has been fulfilled and the Cleveland Public Library, a model in planning, equipment and administration has been made his monument. Her library board recognizing that closeness of association made her Mr. Brett's successor, gave to the woman rightly the man's salary and looked to her with the full confidence which she had earned to give to Cleveland the library which in her keeping has become worthy of one of the most forward-looking of American cities. The appreciation of Cleveland has been shown in the outstanding and astounding fact that the appropriation for the past year was $1.67 per capita which may be exceeded in the coming year. At the Edinburgh conference Miss Eastman showed our English brethren and sisters what a woman executive could do and her paper received more attention than any other on the semicentenary program, with the result that women in British libraries will have more of a chance in the future. With her local, national and international reputation the A. L. A. may well be proud of its incoming president.

CONGRESS has been so busy with investigations, with such vital topics as farm relief and flood control and with manoeuvring for the coming presidential election that less pressing matters have had little chance for action. The postal rate bill has, however, passed both houses with Senate amendments that send it to conference, but apparently the proposed library post is untouched and will be assured of adoption. Copyright has had much attention from the House Patents Committee and the divisible copyright bill has been favorably reported. As none of the bills has passed the committee stage in the Senate, it seems improbable that either will come to a vote and reach the President before the approaching adjournment. The proposal to permit entrance into the International Copyright Union, on which all friends of copyright are agreed in principle, despite differences as to detail, by a "short-cut" bill which could be passed before the meeting of the diplomatic representatives at Rome, has not made progress in either house and the Rome Conference began its sessions some days since, Register Solberg and Representative Bloom having been appointed by President Coolidge to act with Ambassador Fletcher at Rome as official observers. Probably all copyright questions are thus deferred until the session of December, which ends March 4th. It was hoped that the bill which would secure for the Library of Congress the necessary ground for ultimate extension eastward might be passed, but its present passage also seems doubtful.

SPANISH and English divide the Western continent linguistically, except for Brazilian Portuguese, originally a Spanish dialect which like the Scandinavian languages became a national language as political separation prevented unification in language. The new library relations between the United States of America and the United States of Mexico emphasize the fact that libraries as well as schools should give increasing attention to Spanish language and literature, for American commercial development especially will be largely thru increasing relations with our southern neighbors. Therefore, all possible information as to Mexico and Central and South America, should be found on our library shelves, as well as the leading Spanish classics and more popular books which can interest the beginner in the Spanish tongue. Indeed, from the point of view of the Western Hemisphere, Spanish is today a more pervasive language than either French or German and should properly take place alongside those languages thruout our educational system. The pre-conference conference, so to speak, which has been arranged at West Baden for Saturday, May 26, that there may be full opportunity for discussion with the Mexican delegates respecting international arrangements gives added emphasis to the Hispano-American relations as of outstanding library importance.

LIBRARY WORK

NEWSPAPER PUBLICITY IN COUNTY LIBRARY CAMPAIGNS

NEWSPAPER editors are among the strongest allies to be had in conducting a county library campaign. All the time and tact that may be required to convince an editor of the importance of the county library is worth while, and, once his interest is enlisted, pains should be taken to furnish him only genuinely interesting copy and pictures in the form in which he can most easily use it. The A. L. A. Committee on Library Extension *Newspaper Publicity for a County Library Campaign*, recently issued in mimeographed form as Part II of a *County Library Campaign Handbook*, abounds in practical suggestions.

Ask each editor how much copy he can use each day or week and be careful not to exceed this amount, except when items of unusual news value occur, it advises. If mats or electrotypes are wanted, have them made somewhere nearby and in plenty of time. Get pictures of the nearest county library,—not pictures of building or equipment, but live pictures showing people in action. If the state library extension agency has no pictures or electrotypes the A. L. A. can lend duplicates or supply prints at cost from its collection of pictures and other illustrative material. Clear photographs, glossy finish, are best for newspaper use. Halftones do not reproduce well.

Interest should be cumulative, the news stories proceeding from the simplest facts to details. News stories may include reports on campaign plans and progress, news of campaign features as they develop, such as prize contests for posters and slogans, endorsements from clubs and influential rural leaders, and suggested budgets, showing the estimated cost to the county and to the taxpayer. It is best not to "editorialize" but to stick to facts and events. If suggestions for editorials are in order they may be furnished from the sample editorials in the *Handbook*. Stories should be short, from two to five hundred words, and should not attempt to cover too much ground. Two or more short stories are better than a long one and are more likely to be printed and read. Points should be arranged in order of significance with the least important placed last, so that necessary cutting can be done with most ease and least loss. The editor should also be supplied with brief items of from fifty to one hundred and fifty words for fillers. Stories should be tied to local affairs and persons and made as relevant to the news of the day as possible. Newspapers should be treated with impartiality. One paper should never be given important news to the exclusion of the other. In general an item should not be given in exactly the same form to two newspapers in the same territory. A useful guide in preparing newspaper copy is *Typical Newspaper Stories* selected and edited by H. F. Harrington (Ginn, $1.96). Other useful aids are W. G. Bleyer's *Newspaper Writing and Editing* and *Types of News Writing* (Houghton), G. M. Hyde's *Newspaper Reporting and Correspondence* (Appleton), C. G. Ross' *The Writing of News* (Holt) and P. C. Bing's *The Country Weekly* (Appleton). If possible, duplicate scrapbooks should be kept to send to the state library extension agency and to the A. L. A.

Special features may include picture pages, illustrated features about other county libraries in the state or neighboring states, pictures and special stories of campaign leaders, cartoons, endorsements by national authorities, county library descriptive map, daily question box, and a special county library edition of the paper. Purchase of advertising space is usually impracticable because of its cost, even if otherwise desirable, but regular advertisers may be willing to insert in their displays brief statements about the county library.

MAKING THE LIBRARY DIRECTLY USEFUL

ELIMINATION of red tape and explicit instructions for making the fullest and most direct use of the library's resources are emphasized in the Montclair (N. J.) Public Library *Annual Report* for 1927. To get the best service the reader is advised to telephone ahead, stating fully the information he desires and the time at which he plans to arrive to obtain it. The library, with sufficient advance notice, will borrow books from the State Library Commission to supplement the material it has on hand. An information desk is staffed from nine in the morning until nine at night. Following the survey made by Samuel H. Ranck in 1926, a new borrower's card was issued. This is a small identification card of the same size as a driver's license, with which he may borrow an unlimited number of books in short order, since it does away with questioning, long waits at the desk and spelling out of proper names.

Proximity to the Holland Tunnel makes easy the quick acquisition of the books of the hour in New York City on which the library prides itself. The Montclair *Times* contributes

generous space for library book notes and news items, and permits an interesting old character, The Omnivorous Reader, to make comments a column long on the library and its activities. Clubwomen, program committees and church forums assist the library in making its facilities better known.

Combining with the careful workmanship of a personal greeting card the crisp informality of a letter written with definite intention to touch upon only those items of news sure to interest the recipient, this report commands attention in a field in which novelty and originality are doubly welcome. The text is set in Bodoni and printed on Navarre rag paper.

The library's appropriation of $1.12 per capita places it in the same category as Brookline, East Cleveland and similar small suburban cities of equal wealth, and the circulation of 253,471 books last year represented an average of 6.7 books borrowed by each resident.

TRAITS OF SUCCESSFUL CIRCULATION ASSISTANTS

COURTESY and accuracy are the traits most appreciated by library patrons in circulation department assistants, according to the results of a test submitted by W. W. Charters to seventy-nine patrons of libraries in the course of the preparation of Jennie M. Flexner's *Circulation Work in Public Libraries* (A. L. A.) in which the results are tabulated. The same test was given to thirty representative librarians attending the summer institute at the University of Chicago. These ranked accuracy equally with tact, and courtesy with interest in people. The two outstanding cases of differences are those of "Professional Knowledge" and "Health." The patrons rated "Professional Knowledge" very high, probably because they are conscious of the fact that they want excellent service. The librarians rated it lower because they are inclined to take it for granted. Patrons have less regard for "Health" as a factor than librarians because they see less of the influence of a worker's ill-health upon the efficiency of the library than do those who are engaged in library work. It is interesting to notice that the six traits ranked highest by the two groups are the same with the exception of "Professional Knowledge" and "Interest in People," and the latter was rated by the patrons as seventh. It is apparent, therefore, that in the opinion of both groups social qualities are the outstanding traits, along with "Accuracy," in the qualifications for this position.

The list of traits was collected by questionnaires to and personal interviews with librarians. The staff interviewed in person twenty-five widely separated librarians and heads of circulation departments and recorded their answers to these questions. This number of interviews was sufficient, as has been found in other studies, because the traits are determined by the job rather than by personal opinion, and the circulation of books is essentially the same job in every locality, or at least requires essentially the same traits. Twenty-three traits were secured in the first seven interviews. The last eighteen persons interviewed added no new traits. After the material from the interviews was assembled, the returns were analyzed by the staff under the direction of Emily H. Kenagy, who was employed for this purpose because of her varied experience in making trait studies.

The list so obtained follows: Accuracy, adaptability, courtesy, dependability, forcefulness, health, imagination, industriousness, initiative, intelligence, interest in people, interest in work, judgment, memory, mental curiosity, neatness, patience, pleasantness, poise, professional knowledge, speed, system, and tact. In the study these traits are amplified and described in terms of trait action. To display judgment, for example, according to those interviewed, is to show discrimination in selecting books for borrowers; make reasonable exceptions to rules within the limitations of personal responsibility; show discretion in dealing with borrowers, serving the opposite sex impartially; and to know when to help borrowers and when not to offer assistance.

PROGRESS OF THE CONCILIUM BIBLIOGRAPHICUM

AN ABSTRACTING service of unusual range and value, the Concilium Bibliographicum has grown in usefulness since the first intimation of its foundation, appearing in the English journal *Nature* in 1893, was welcomed by scientists and bibliographers. When Herbert Haviland Field was engaged in postgraduate embryological investigation at Harvard his laborious search thru all previous publications on the subject showed him the need of a greater adaptation of the sources of bibliographical information to the requirements of special investigations. The base of operations was soon transferred to Germany. Every country of Europe except Portugal and the Balkans was visited and addresses given before scientific societies. In 1895 the French Zoological Society took the lead in voting an annual subsidy for the period of five years and in raising a private subscription for the first year's expenses. The latter half of the year 1894 and the greater part of 1905 were devoted to studies on systems of classification. In return for the acceptance of the decimal classification

on the part of the Concilium, the International Institute of Bibliography in Brussels brought its work into the closest harmony with that of the Concilium and has loyally co-operated in the work carried out in common ever since. The decision in regard to locating the Concilium was precipitated in 1895 when the town and canton of Zurich offered financial aid, if that city were selected. The Federal Council of Education likewise offered a subsidy and the Zurich libraries offered exceptional facilities.

The work of the Concilium is to examine as many of the periodicals of the world as are accessible to it, to make abstracts of their contents, and to publish the results of its labors in the form of a card catalog of zoological literature. Each article is read by a zoologist who determines for what classes of workers the paper is of interest and prepares a brief résumé, noting any new species or genera described. In order to indicate the contents of the articles, the topics met with have been arranged in the form of a comprehensive classification and then numbered, so that each paper is assigned by a numerical symbol to the divisions with which it deals. The reference to each paper is printed on a card and bears the appropriate numbers to designate one of the topics treated in the publication. Where the reviewer finds various matters treated in one paper several different editions of the cards are printed, differing only from one another in the classificatory symbol employed. Thus a given work may be found to contain an account of the occurrence of a white badger in a given country, together with considerations on albinism in general. The paper would leave the hands of the reviewer with a symbol of each of these aspects. The indication 11.57 would mean that the paper in question dealt with albinism, and the card would accordingly be sent to subscribers interested in that subject; the symbol 9.74 Meles would mean that the card must go to all subscribers interested in the badger, and a third symbol would designate the country or district in which the animal was found. The naturalist interested in albinism subscribers for that portion of the catalog which deals with his subject, and receives every two months the new citations of papers on albinism, many of which might remain unknown to him save for the agency of the Concilium. The whole series of cards may be subscribed for by an institution, which thus secures a bibliography of zoology since 1896.

The latest figures published—for 1926, the twentieth complete year of the Concilum Commission—show 201 subscribers to cards, or 370 if subscribers to more than one class are counted separately. Cards totalling over 20,000 were sent to these subscribers, of which 3625 were entries for physiology, 846 for anatomy, and 16,322 for palaeontology, biology and zoology. There are also 270 subscribers to the bibliographies in book form, namely 65 for *Bibliographia* Physiologica and 205 for Bibliographia Zoologica.

LIBRARY ORGANIZATIONS

ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

THE Ontario Library Association met on Easter Monday and Tuesday with renewed enthusiasm after an interval of two years, having given up the Easter meetings in 1927 to join the A. L. A. last June.

The first session on Monday, April 9th, was very interesting. The President, Mr. Landon, gave a splendid address on Canadian literature, and a group of three papers on reference work in the smaller libraries by younger successful librarians, Kathleen Moyer from Galt, Florence Thomas from St. Thomas, and Angus Mowat from Belleville, was followed by an address "Impressions of Library Work in Great Britain" by George H. Locke. An account of the county library system in Great Britain, and various incidents of library interest during Dr. Locke's recent sojourn in the Old Country, made a very fine ending to a most profitable afternoon.

In the evening the Rev. Trevor H. Davies of the Eaton Memorial Church, Toronto, gave a fine address on "Books and Reading", much appreciated by an audience who knew him as writer and speaker.

Tuesday morning was devoted to various interests. The story of new library buildings of 1927 in city, town and country was told by their enthusiastic librarians: New Toronto, by Doris Grimshaw; a new branch at Windsor, by Agnes Lancefield; Wellington, by Bessie Dorland; Newcastle, by Cora Butler; Toronto's new down-town branch and business library, by Teresa O'Connor and Zetta Harper, and the new Riverdale Branch Library for boys and girls, by Rita Lewis. The important question of the League of Nations was dealt with by Alice A. Chown, who explained much that is difficult to understand; and Mary J. L. Black spoke ably on adult education.

The Round table sessions were held in the afternoon. The Books for Boys and Girls section heard an illustrated lecture on children's books in the making, by Louise Seaman, editor

of Macmillan's, New York City. The Current Literature section was under the guidance of Marjorie Jarvis, Angus Mowat and Alison Ewart. The Ontario Regional Group of Cataloguers, with Miss Winifred Barnstead as Chairman, had two papers—"Co-operative Cataloguing; Its History and Possible Extension," by Edna M. Poole, of the Academy of Medicine; and "Queen's Experiment in Co-operative Cataloguing and Its Future," by Janet S. Porteous, chief cataloguer, Queen's University Library.

The new executive is as follows: President: Lillian H. Smith, Boys and Girls House, Toronto; vice-presidents, James Steele, Stratford, and F. M. De LaFosse, Peterborough; secretary-treasurer: E. Blanche Steele, Toronto.

FLORIDA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

THE ninth annual meeting of the Florida Library Association was held in Lakeland, April 4-5, in the new Lakeland Public Library, the President, Olive Brumbaugh, presiding.

An address of welcome was followed by the roll call of libraries, the reports showing activity in many directions. It was voted to continue the district meetings.

The afternoon session included valuable reviews by Thelma Yaggy of *O Rare Ben Jonson* by Steel, and Grace Moase of *The Bridge of San Luis Rey*. Mrs. P. V. Griffin in "Visualizing Library Service" brought out many new and vital points in library work. Mrs. S. L. Hubbard presented very happily "Recent Tendencies in Southern Writing," and there followed "The Romance of the Book" by Dr. Edwin Osgood Grover of Rollins College, at Winter Park, who is perhaps the only "professor of books" in the United States.

Round table discussion of public library problems including library revenues, reading clubs and story hours, loan work and books for the sick, was followed by a report on the survey of high school libraries now being carried on in the state. At the afternoon session the discussion centered around the question of a county service law and was led by J. F. Marron of Jacksonville. For the first time the Association had a representative from the Florida State Library in the person of Mr. W. T. Cash, secretary of the Board, who spoke on what the Florida State Board means to the state.

The pleasant social events added much to the pleasure of the meeting, and following a banquet at Southern College, Dr. Ludd Spivey, President of the College, delivered an address on "Adult Education and the Library."

Newly elected officers are: President, Joseph F. Marron, Jacksonville Public Library; vice-presidents, Mrs. R. L. Tucker, Albertson Public Library, Orlando, and S. S. Green, Bartow Public Library; secretary, Mrs. S. Arthur Davies, Dunedin Public Library; treasurer, Miss Louise Richardson, Florida State College for Women.

Abridged from the report of
CORA MILTIMORE, *Acting Secretary.*

THE ASSOCIATION OF ASSISTANT LIBRARIANS

THE Association has been proceeding apace. Since the October meeting when Dr. Locke read a paper on Canadian literature, and the joint meeting with the London and Home Counties Branch of the Library Association in November, when the general question of urban libraries was discussed, three meetings have been held. At one of these a paper was read on "The Origin and Development of the Printed Alphabet," and in January the two winners of the President's prize read their essays on the Board of Education *Report on Public Libraries*.

An important feature of the Report, if not its most important feature, is the recommendation in favor of a system of central cataloging, with the issue of printed cards to subscribers, similar to those provided in America by the Library of Congress. The last meeting of the Association (the fifth of the session and the second held jointly with the London and Home Counties Branch of the Library Association) was devoted to a consideration of this proposal and gave rise to a helpful and animated discussion, opened by Messrs. J. G. O'Leary (Bethnal Green), A. Cecil Piper (Richmond), and J. E. Walker (Fulham). While all were in favor of the principle involved, there was some disagreement as to the precise form the proposed scheme should take.

The cards would be prepared by the British Museum and the question at once arises: Are all published books to be cataloged or only a selection? If the latter, how is the selection to be made? No solution of this particular problem was forthcoming but in other directions some progress was achieved. Naturally enough, members of the two Associations were interested in the details of American experience quoted by some of the speakers and it was interesting to learn that the Library of Congress system provided a reasonably speedy service at a comparatively low charge. The difference between the rules followed in the British Museum catalogue and those used in most municipal libraries turned out to be not such an important difference after all in the opinion of some speakers, and tho no vote was taken it seemed that the sense of the meeting was completely in favor of a serious attempt to put the Board of Education's recommendation into practice.

KENNETH G. HUNT, *Secretary*

AMONG LIBRARIANS

Angeline Scott Donley, librarian of the South Branch, Bridgeport (Conn.) Public Library, contributed an interesting paper to *The American City* for April, telling something of the Model Yacht Club which meets at that Branch and the Marine Club organized by the children's department as a vacation project for elementary school children.

Wilhelmina Harper, supervisor of children's work at the Kern County Library, Bakersfield, California, should have been mentioned with other librarian-authors and compilers of recent and forthcoming publications in a recent number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL. For in addition to four volumes published within the past ten years (*Story Hour Favorites*, Century, 1918; *Off Duty*, Century, 1919; *Fillmore Folk Tales*, Harcourt, 1926; and *The Magic Fairy Tales*, Longmans, 1926) Miss Harper is publishing this year with Macmillan *Treasure Trails*, a series of four school readers sub-titled *Pleasant Pathways, Winding Roads, Far Away Hills* and *Heights and Highways*, and she has three other volumes in press. These are *Boys' Stories from the Youth's Companion, Girls' Stories from the Youth's Companion* (Little), and *More Story Hour Favorites* (Century).

Edward A. Henry, acting director of libraries at the University of Chicago, has been appointed director of libraries at the University of Cincinnati, succeeding Julian S. Fowler whose appointment as librarian of Oberlin College has already been announced.

Johannes Mattern of the Johns Hopkins University Library is author of *Concepts of State Sovereignty* and *International Law* with special reference to the juristic conception of the state, a 220-page octavo published by the Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore (London: Oxford University Press). This book is the outcome of a course of lectures given by the author in 1924 at Johns Hopkins on the new German Constitution, as is also his *Principles of the Constitutional Jurisprudence of the German National Republic* to be published in July.

Charles E. Rush and Amy Winslow of the Indianapolis Public Library with their *Modern Aladdins* have in eighteen months achieved a sale of nearly 17,000 copies, and a five-year contract from Texas for about one hundred thousand volumes for use as a sixth grade reader bids fair to make this a best seller in non-fiction by librarian-authors.

William Webb, of the Detroit Public Library, was elected librarian of Flint, Michigan, on May 7 and will assume his duties shortly after June 1.

Margaret Withington, 1920 Simmons, appointed librarian of Scripps College, Claremont, Calif.

As the guests of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the following delegates will attend the A. L. A. Conference at West Baden: Señorita Esperanza Velázquez Bringas, of the Library of the Ministry of Education; Señor Rafael Aguilar y Santillán, perpetual secretary of Antonio Alzate (a scientific society); Rafael Heliodoro Valle, of the Library Department of the Ministry of Education; Joaquín Méndez Rivas, director of the National Library; Joaquín Dias Mercado, librarian of the Library of the Ministry of Education. A tentative pre-conference trip of the delegates includes: Houston, St. Louis, Chicago, Ann Arbor, Detroit, Cleveland, Fort Wayne, and Indianapolis, and the post-conference trip will include a visit to Washington and New York.

GRADUATES OF 1928

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SCHOOL OF LIBRARIANSHIP

Ottilia Christina Anderson, assistant, catalog department, University of California Library, Berkeley; Ann Huntington Benson, assistant, circulation department, University of California Library, Berkeley; Charlotte Anthony Cavell, assistant catalog department, University of California Library at Los Angeles; Evelyn Holcomb, assistant, catalog department, University of California Library, Berkeley; Louis Martin Nourse, librarian, East Bakersfield Branch, Kern County Free Library, Bakersfield, Calif.; Aileen Reilly, assistant, University Farm Library, Davis, California; Amy Whittemore Rose, assistant, circulation department, University of California Library, Berkeley; Esther May Stocking, assistant, circulation department, University of California Library at Los Angeles; Susanne Lydia Weeden, assistant, University of California Medical School, San Francisco.

McGILL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY SCHOOL

Marguerite Benny, reader's adviser, T. Eaton Company, Montreal, P. Q.; Alice O'C. Hayes, research assistant, Federated Press, Montreal, P. Q.; Catherine Hemmeon, temporary assistant, Mount Allison College Library; Marjorie Hodge, reviser, McGill University Library School, Montreal; Doris McKay, children's library, Vancouver Public Library; Maud Martin, assistant, Royal Bank Library, Mon

treal, P. Q.; Joan Osborne, Department Store Library, Jas. Ogilvy's, Montreal, P. Q.; Jessie Robertson, assistant, Vancouver (B. C.) Public Library; B. Simon, Medical Library, McGill University, Montreal, P. Q.; Alison MacTavish and Gwendoline McEwen go to Cleveland to take the advanced course in library work with children.

LOS ANGELES LIBRARY SCHOOL

Alma Becker, children's librarian, Coronado Public Library; Evelyn Cooper, assistant, California Division, State Library, Sacramento; Pauline Fischer, Dorothy Lowder, Charlotte Munson, Frances Widick, children's librarians, Los Angeles Public Library; Beatrice Jepson, assistant, Bank of Italy Library, Los Angeles; Helen Mason, assistant, continuations division, Los Angeles Public Library; Elizabeth Olmstead, philosophy and religion department, Ruth Peiffer, Catalog Department, Jeanette Rideout, School and Teachers Department, Sara Schoonover, Order Department, Los Angeles Public Library; and Eva Thompson, assistant, Long Beach Public Library.

CURRENT LITERATURE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

Syracuse Library Windows, which of late years has been issued but once a year, will hereafter be published quarterly and will for the most part consist of classified and annotated lists of the books of importance added to the Public Library.

"In Library Work Rooms," in the March issue of *The Step Ladder*, the organ of The Order of Bookfellows, is a lucid and temperate account by Nellie Jane Compton, assistant librarian at the University of Nebraska, of some of the processes of ordering, classification and cataloging that make library routine more complex than it frequently appears to the casual user of libraries.

Based on Cutter's *Rules for a Dictionary Catalog*, the Carnegie (Pittsburgh) Library's *Rules for Filing Cards* and the Cleveland Public Library's *Filing Rules*, is the newly compiled *Filing Rules for the Arrangement of the Dictionary Catalog of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County*, compiled by Alice E. Ewald and Eleanor S. Wilby under the direction of Laura Smith, chief of the Catalog Department.

Art in Denver, chiefly architectural art, is the subject of the second number (dated April) of *The Lookout From the Denver Public Library*, which began its first volume in January 1927 with an issue on music in Denver and Colorado. Sculpture, murals, stained glass, paintings and landscape design are other subjects of an attractively illustrated and fully indexed brochure of 59 pages, prepared for the library by the Fine Arts Committee of the City Club of Denver and also issued concurrently as "City Club Publication No. 14."

For the first time a selection of libraries of the Empire and foreign countries has been included in the sixth edition of *The Libraries Museums and Art Galleries . . . Year Book*. A thirty-page "Biographical Section" is an index—for the most part one line to an entry—to the positions occupied by about 1400 librarians, principally British but including a few American librarians selected on a principle not obvious; and there is a tabulation of statistics of public libraries. (Gravesend: The Librarian and Book World, 1928. 230p. 25s.)

With a new edition of the Decimal Classification, there has hitherto been published for owners of earlier editions a list of additions and corrections. But the twelfth edition, published last fall, is so greatly expanded that such a list would result in a volume so large that even if it could be distributed free the work of inserting the additions in an old edition or using the list of additions as a supplementary volume in connection with old editions would soon cost in time much more than price of the new edition itself. As soon, however, as pressure of other work permits, a list of corrections will be printed and sent to owners of earlier editions, on application to Forest Press, Lake Placid Club, Essex Co., N. Y.

Designed for the use of public attorneys, parish officers, and librarians, *Les Bibliothèques Publiques en Belgique* by Pierre Recht, lawyer, formerly Inspector of Public Libraries, is an exhaustive legal and historical commentary on the law relating to public libraries adopted by the government October 17, 1921. (Bruxelles: A. de Boeck, 1928, pap. 152p.). The technical and historical aspects of the modern public library movement in Belgium have been treated in Depasse's *Guide Pratique du Bibliothécaire* and Van Meel's *Bibliothèques Publiques, Traité Theorique et Pratique*, both published in 1921, but this is stated to be the first treatise on Belgian legislation concerning public libraries. The law is considered first in its broad outlines

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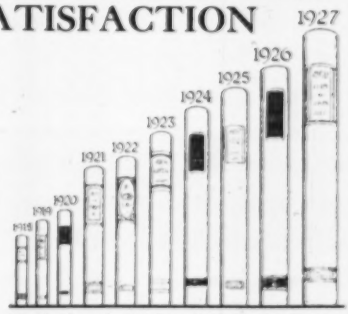

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A MAGAZINE index so up to the moment that it indexes a weekly dated April 28th in its May issue, received May 7, is the new *Current Magazine Contents* published by the Wichita (Kansas) Publishing Co. at $5 a year. Its intention is to provide "an index to the hundred leading periodicals of the country, available while those magazines are still current." The list of periodicals indexed includes thirty-three not indexed in the *Readers' Guide*, covering among others, the *American Legion Monthly*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Liberty*, *McCall's*, *Theatre*, and *Vanity Fair*, but omitting the *Bookman*. It does not include all the magazines indexed by the *Readers' Guide*, however, and will apparently not be cumulated. The contents are first arranged, with brief annotations, under such headings as Persons and Personages; Literature, Music, Art; Business; Women; Outside the Home; Americana; and Travel, Exploration, Adventure. A list of authors of articles comes next, followed by indexes to fiction and poetry alphabetically listed by authors.

CO-OPERATIVE CATALOGING IN CANADA

To the Editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL:

May I make one or two brief observations on the paper by Mr. Van Patten on "Co-operative Cataloging in Canada" in your issue of April 15?

Mr. Van Patten may be right in saying that it was he who, when librarian of Queen's University, inaugurated "the first printing of catalog cards within the British Empire"; but he does not go on to tell us why the number of cards he printed was so small—only "something over 300" in five years. If, as he asserts, only $500 in working capital is necessary to launch a scheme of co-operative cataloging in Canada, why did he stop short with his experiment?

Let me deal with the problem from a different angle. If any scheme for the co-operative cataloging of Canadian books is to command support, it must be reasonably comprehensive. There have been printed in British North America since 1763 at least 25,000 books and pamphlets. The average cost of an edition of fifty cards for each of these titles would be, according to Mr. Van Patten, over $1. The cost of a comprehensive scheme would therefore approximate $25,000, less the income from the sale of cards. What would this income be? Not large, I fear. There are not many good-sized libraries in Canada; and even among these there are a number which serve French-speaking constituencies, and could not be counted upon to buy cards.

W. S. WALLACE, *Librarian,*
University of Toronto Library.

IN THE LIBRARY PERIODICALS

BLOOMFIELD (N. J.) PUBLIC LIBRARY

Barrett, M. F. The Free Public Library of Bloomfield. LIB. JOUR. 53:405-407. 1928.

BOOK SELECTION

Dana, J. C. A suggestion to publishers. *Atlantic Bookshelf.* April 1928. p. 28-31.

Vosper, Z. B. The small town library selects its books. *Atlantic Bookshelf.* April 1928. p. 42-47.

BRANCH LIBRARIES. *See* NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY.

CATALOGING

Thornton, M. L. Cataloging local history. *North Carolina Lib. Bull.* 7: 38-41. 1928.

Van Patten, Nathan. Co-operative cataloging in Canada. LIB. JOUR. 53:353-355. 1928.

CLASSIFICATION SCHEMES

Bradford, S. C. The logical principles of classification. Reprinted from *The Engineer*, 1928, 145, 357. *Lib. World.* 30:227-229. 1928.

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CO-OPERATION BETWEEN LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS

Jast, L. S. *The Provision of Books for Children in Elementary Schools.* London: Libraco Ltd., 1928. pap. 33p., 1s.

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Crawford, C. M. County libraries of England. *North Carolina Lib. Bull.* 7:41-46. 1928.

HANOVER, N. H., HOWE LIBRARY

Carrick, Q. V. L. The library in our little town. *McCall's.* May 1928. p. 39.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY LIBRARY. *See* COOLIDGE, ARCHIBALD CARY, 1866-1928.

HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Duff, J. C. The librarian and the junior high school. LIB. JOUR. 53:402-404. 1928.

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

Stephen, G. A. *The Public Library and the Historical Student.* Holt, England: Norfolk Press Syndicate, 1928. pap. 28p.

INDIANAPOLIS (IND.) PUBLIC LIBRARY

Winslow, Amy. Ten years of the Indianapolis Public Library. LIB. JOUR. 53:395-398. 1928.

INSTRUCTION IN USE OF LIBRARIES

Buck, Gertrude. Essentials in library instruction. *Libraries.* 33:266-271. 1928.

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Special Libraries for April 1928 (19:997-123) is a life insurance number.

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Lewis, F. G. Are academic librarians alert? LIB. JOUR. 53: 346-348. 1928.

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Sayers, W. C. B. Libraries. Their principal objects and ideals for the future. III. Town libraries. *Ln. and Book World.* 17: 316-318. 1928.

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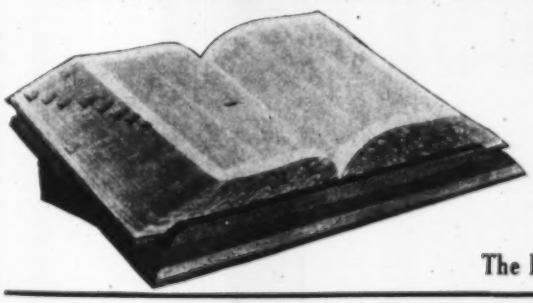

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BRITISH EMPIRE

Locke, G. H. A federation of the libraries of the Empire. *Lib. Assistant.* April 1928. p. 80-82.

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Bailey, L. J. Libraries in Indiana. LIB. JOUR. 53: 335-340. 1928.

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Frankhauser, M. E. Libraries in Michigan. LIB. JOUR. 53: 391-394. 1928.

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University of the State of New York. Department of Education. 23rd *Annual Report* for the school year ending July 31, 1926. Albany, 1927. 2v. Library conditions in New York State tables. v. 1, p. 214-217.

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Proceedings of the 50th anniversary conference of the Library Association at Edinburgh, Sept. 26-Oct. 1, 1927. *Lib. Assn. Record.* n.s. 6: i-xxv. (Supplement). 1928.

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New York Library Association Letter (referred to in the text as *News Letter*) began publication December 15, 1927, and will probably appear quarterly.

LOCAL HISTORY. *See* CATALOGING.

NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY. NEW DORP BRANCH.

The James Watson Hughes Memorial Library, New Dorp, Staten Island. New York Public Library. *Branch Lib. Book News.* 5: 27-29. 1928.

PAMPHLETS

The *Wilson Bull.* for March 1928 (3: 203-224) has articles by O. M. Mehus on "Education Pamphlets," M. J. Booth, on "Geographic Material," and S. J. Carter, on "Pub. Docs."

PERIODICAL INDEXES

Current Magazine Contents. 335 North Market st., Wichita, Kansas: Wichita Pub. Co. v. 1, no. 1, April 1928. $5 a year.

PICTURE COLLECTIONS

Frebault, Marcelle. Notes on a picture collection. *Wilson Bull.* 3: 233-234. 1928.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

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A.L.A. Committee on Salaries, Insurance and Annuities. Salary statistics; small public libraries. *A.L.A. Bull.* 22: 70-71. 1928.

SCHOOLS. *See* CO-OPERATION BETWEEN LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS.

SOUTH DAKOTA. STATE COLLEGE. LIBRARY

Powers, W. H. New library building of the South Dakota State College. *Agr. Lib. Notes.* 3: 193-194. 1928.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Last year's book-treasure purchases. Brooklyn (N. Y.) Public Library. *Bull.* 7: 41-47. 1928.

STAFF MANAGEMENT

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STATE DOCUMENTS

Hodnefield, Jacob. Minnesota public documents. *Lib. Notes and News.* 9: 9-11. 1928.

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Conner, Martha. A difficulty analysis of the teaching of reference work. LIB. JOUR. 53: 399-401. 1928.

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Downey, M. E. Library courses in the college, university and normal school curriculum. LIB. JOUR. 535: 349-352. 1928.

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Benedetti, Enrico. The Vatican Library. LIB. JOUR. 53: 385-389. 1928.

WILLIAM L. CLEMENTS LIBRARY

Adams, R. G. The whys and wherefores of the William L. Clements Library. Reprinted from the *Michigan History Magazine*, January 1928. *Mich. Lib. Bull.* 19: 85-98. 1928.

WITHDRAWN BOOKS

Halgrim, Hazel. Methods of withdrawing books. [Minnesota] *Lib. Notes and News.* 9: 8-9. 1928.

OPPORTUNITIES

POSITIONS OFFERED

The appropriation bill of the Library of Congress for the year beginning July 1 carries provision for twelve additional high-grade catalogers, ten at $2,400 each and two at $3,000.

These positions will be filled by new appointments and since the securing of the best available personnel is important to all libraries using Library of Congress cards as well as to the Library itself, the Librarian makes this notification both as an invitation to applicants and "by way of persuasion to any librarian who may be called upon to relinquish to us some experienced member of his staff."

Princeton University Library invites applications for the position of Departmental librarian of natural sciences, from September 1, 1928. Necessary qualifications are considerable training in geology or biology, and in library science. Initial salary $1800.

Wanted, librarian for library of 14,000 volumes in Montana town of 7,000. Position open September 1. Salary according to experience. State educational qualifications, references, and experience. C. L. 10.

Wanted, children's librarian with training and some experience. Initial salary $1,500. Springfield Public Library, Springfield, Mo.

Wanted—Cataloger for College Library. Thoro knowledge of and experience in L. C. System, and wide knowledge of Catholic literature required. Librarian, Boston College Library, Chestnut Hill, Mass.

POSITIONS WANTED

Librarian of a town library wants to make a change soon. Only the head librarianship of a town or county library considered. A. B. C. 10.

College graduate with two years' experience in cataloging now completing master's degree in library school wishes position, preferably in middle-western state. Salary in last position $175. T. T. 10.

Librarian with B.A., library training and part time experience in public library for three years, desires a position in public or high-school library. T. Z. 10.

Library school and college graduate with one year of experience desires temporary or permanent position July 1st. Address Mary Frances, 78 Lincoln Avenue, Dunkirk, N. Y.

Wanted position as county librarian by college graduate with library school training and executive county library experience. R. S. 10.

Summer position wanted by college graduate and professionally trained librarian able to take administrative position for several months as substitute librarian. C. L. 10.

University and Library school graduate desires a cataloging position in a public library. At present is the cataloger in a medium sized library. E. M. 10.

Wanted by an expert cataloger, library school training position by September 1st, 1928. Address M. H. 10.

Technical librarian. Young man with excellent experience desires position as head of the science and industrial department of a large public library. E. B. 10.

LIBRARY PURCHASING GUIDE

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